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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Rural Electrification Administration
St. Louis 2, Missouri

March 3, 1944

NEWSLETTER TOPICS

MORE APPLIANCES EXPECTED

We have some good news on the electrical appliance situation this month. According to present indications, milking machines, milk coolers, chick brooders, water pumps and irons will be available in larger quantities.

The milking machine production quota for 1944 is 140 percent of that for 1940. In addition to production authorized this year, manufacturers are expected to produce by July the machines authorized but not manufactured in 1943.

An appreciable increase in milk cooler production has been authorized, and it is believed that production schedules will be met.

Chick brooders will be available in greater numbers than last year. Brooder production is authorized at 140 percent of 1940 production.

There is still a fair supply of shallow well pumps. Deep well pumps are more critical. Supplies of both, however, will be greater than in 1943.

Manufacture of 2,000,000 electric irons has been authorized. The first of these irons probably will be on the market by July.

BROODERS SAVE FEED

In addition to their convenience and ease of operation, electric chick brooders save important quantities of feed. Their safe, uniform heat reduces chick losses and helps each bird get the most out of his daily ration.

Tests indicate that chicks make the best possible use of feed for growth when brooded under recommended temperatures, which are easily maintained in the electric brooder.

When cold, chicks eat extra amounts of feed in trying to keep body temperature at the right level. They also do not thrive when temperature is excessively high.

MACHINES MILK FASTER

Have you ever figured out how much labor you could save with an electric milking machine? If you have not, here is a table based on a U.S. Department of Agriculture survey of the labor saved each day in 1943 on farms using the popular two-cow milking machine.

Number of cows milked	Milking machine (Includes caring for machine)	Time needed to milk same cows by hand.	Labor saved.
	Hours	Hours	Hours
8 and less	1.35	1.98	0.63
9 to 13	1.97	3.18	1.21
14 to 18	2.61	4.35	1.74
19 to 23	3.05	5.42	2.37
24 to 28	3.59	6.11	2.52
29 and over	5.23	9.75	4.52

The Department of Agriculture says that any farmer milking ten or more cows ordinarily can save enough labor to justify the use of a milking machine. A machine also may be justified for smaller herds by special circumstances, such as dependency on aged or inexperienced workers to do the milking. Have any of our members records to support or challenge these figures? We'd like to hear from you.

MR. HUNDRED PERCENT COOPERATOR SAYS:

It's like shooting fish in a rain barrel to make our Co-op successful when everybody does his share.

One way we can help our Co-op is to get our meter cards in on time and pay our bills promptly. Most of us do this. But we cannot say that we are doing our best until we have completely eliminated late meter cards and delinquent bills.

Let's all read our meters and pay our accounts on time from now on. If we do, we will have taken a long step toward building a really successful rural electric cooperative. Last month, we had _____ estimated bills and _____ that were not paid by the last discount day.

SOME GOOD EXAMPLES

Herman Schultz has a novel idea for removing nails and hardware from grain to be ground in his electric feed mill. He has placed a large magnet in the spout through which the grain enters the mill. The mill is so arranged that it is fed from overhead bins, and the bin into which the ground feed falls is divided into two compartments, one for coarse and the other for finely ground feed. (From newsletter of McLeod Cooperative Power Association, Glencoe, Minnesota).

Towery Plunkett, one of our new U-1-c members, was interested in an electric feed mixer to mix feed for his flock of 2,000 laying hens. We located a discarded 700 -pound butter churn at the local creamery. Mr. Plunkett bought the churn and converted it into a 1000-pound feed mixer operated by a two-horsepower electric motor. (From newsletter of the Arkansas Valley Electric Cooperative, Ozark, Ark.)

Grace Leonard, who is spending the winter in San Gabriel, writes that she was sorry to have missed the annual meeting and "I expect to be back on the ranch next spring. Will hope to be of some help to our electric co-op then." (From Newsletter of Surprise Valley Electrification Corporation, Alturas, California.)

W. B. Milburn, who lives south of Clarksburg, advises us that he is using an electric separator to separate 10 to 15 gallons of milk twice a day. Mr. Milburn says that the current this separator uses is very small and that it saves him approximately 30 minutes per day of really hard work. He also advises that labor saved by this electric separator more than pays for the cost of his entire electric bill. (From newsletter of Co-No Electric Cooperative, Tipton, Missouri.)

Mrs. Lena Burkart, of Jacobsburg, reports that she has been using her home-made electric chick brooder to keep her potatoes from freezing. Does any other member have a novel or unusual use for their electric service? Let us know about it -- your suggestions may help a fellow member. (From newsletter of Belmont Electric Cooperative, St. Clairsville, Ohio.)

Adventures of Johnnie Kilowatt: Three years ago Johnnie came to the S. E. Clark ranch looking for work. Mr. Clark tried him out on a few simple chores and he did so well that he raised his wages and gave him more work. This continued until now Johnnie is getting about \$25.00 a month from Mr. Clark who insists that he is the cheapest help he ever had, and that he couldn't get along without him, especially since Hank the hired man left. (From newsletter of Riverton Valley Electric Association, Riverton, Wyoming.)

Here is a true account of how pig brooders helped Dewey Harper raise twice as many hogs in 1943 as he did in 1942 from the same number of sows. Mr. Harper made six pig brooders at a cost of \$2 each complete. His sows averaged better than nine pigs each. These pigs came when the weather was from zero to ten degrees above. Mr. Harper figured it cost him \$10 to brood these 90 odd pigs for two weeks -- money very well spent, indeed. Mr. Harper said that if any of you desire to see these brooders in operation, come down to his farm. (From newsletter of Southern Iowa Electric Cooperative, Bloomfield, Iowa.)

Mrs. Fuller writes: "My electric churn has saved me a lot of hard work and I especially appreciate it since I have had arthritis so bad. It long ago paid for itself, as I've sold several pounds of butter every week this winter. (From newsletter of Tri-County Electric Membership Corporation, Gray, Georgia.)